1 THE HONORABLE ROBERT S. LASNIK 2 3 4 5 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 7 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE 8 9 TOMMY BROWN, on his own behalf and No. 2:20-cy-00680-RSL on behalf of other similarly situated 10 persons, STIPULATION AND ORDER TO STAY THIS ACTION EXCEPT FOR PURPOSE 11 Plaintiff, OF CONDUCTING LIMITED JURISDICTIONAL DISCOVERY 12 v. 13 TRANSWORLD SYSTEMS, INC., et al., 14 Defendants. 15 16 17 **STIPULATION** 18 After the Parties' meet and confer on June 5, 2020 to discuss various issues related to 19 Plaintiff's Motion for Extension of Time to File Motion to Remand and Request for Limited 20 Discovery and several subsequent communications, Plaintiff Tommy Brown ("Plaintiff") and 21 Defendants Transworld Systems Inc. ("TSI"), Patenaude & Felix, APC ("P&F), U.S. Bank 22 National Association ("U.S. Bank"), National Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2004-1, National 23 Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2004-2, National Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2005-1, National 24 Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2005-2, National Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2005-3, National 25 Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2006-1, National Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2006-2, National 26 Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2007-1, and National Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2007-2 (collectively, "the Trusts," and together with TSI, P&F, and U.S. Bank, "Defendants"), hereby stipulate and agree, subject to the Court's approval, to (A) stay this matter and continue all deadlines for the purpose of determining (i) whether or not this Court's limited jurisdiction exists and (ii) conducting jurisdictional discovery, limited to the specific areas identified below, concerning the Trusts' citizenship; and (B) that Plaintiff's Motion for Extension of Time to File Motion to Remand and Request for Limited Discovery (Dkt. [48]) is withdrawn.

Specifically, the Parties agree that, for a period of ninety days from approval of this Stipulation by the Court, they may seek jurisdictional discovery from Parties and non-parties identifying the (i) citizenship of the Trusts, (ii) their beneficial owners (as that term is defined by 12 Del. C. s. 3801), and (iii) the citizenship of all members of any beneficial owners. The Ninth Circuit has explained that "discovery should ordinarily be granted where pertinent facts bearing on the question of jurisdiction are controverted or where a more satisfactory showing of the facts is necessary.' *Butcher's Union Local No. 498 v. SDC Inv., Inc.*, 788 F.2d 535, 540 (9th Cir.1986) (citation omitted)." *Laub v. U.S. Dep't of Interior*, 342 F.3d 1080, 1093 (9th Cir. 2003).

The Parties further agree that Plaintiff's deadline to timely move to remand this action, if necessary, after the jurisdictional discovery is obtained in relation to the Trusts' citizenship, shall be extended to September 21, 2020 to move to remand this action to the state court and hereby stipulate and agree, subject to the Court's approval, to stay this matter and continue all deadlines until after the Court has entered an order on any motion to remand that may be subsequently filed by Plaintiff (or withdrawn as appropriate).

By agreeing to this stipulation, the Parties do not waive the right to object to any specific discovery propounded and the stay of proceedings as described in this stipulation shall not bar the Parties or any non-party's right to file any jurisdictional discovery-related motions or seek any jurisdictional discovery-related relief in relation to the Trusts' citizenship.

DATED: June 17, 2020

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1 **ORDER** 2 IT IS SO ORDERED. The amended deadlines are as follows: 3 4 1. Plaintiff's deadline to timely move to remand this action, if necessary, shall be 5 extended to September 21, 2020. 6 2. The Parties may seek limited jurisdictional discovery regarding (i) the citizenship of 7 the Trusts, (ii) their beneficial owners (as that term is defined by 12 Del. C. s. 3801), 8 and (iii) the citizenship of all members of any beneficial owners. 9 3. Except as to any discovery-related disputes as may arise, this matter is stayed, and all 10 deadlines are continued until after the Court has entered an order on any motion to 11 remand subsequently filed by Plaintiff. 12 DATED this 24th day of June, 2020. MMS Casnik 13 14 Honorable Robert S. Lasnik 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26